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STATE EXTENSION
-EDITORS

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## REPAIRS FOR PROTECTION

"Repairs to protect the property, to keep the house sound
and weathertight, come first, " says (Name) (Title)
at . "Then consider the repairs and improvements that
(Institution) are desirable and convenient but that can wait without injury to the struc-
ture."
It is a good plan,says, to make a systematic
inspection of the home at least once a year, and the fall and early winter
is a good season for this survey.

In the first list of "urgent" needs, put the repairs that will stop deterioration. First, the roof. Are there any leaks? Broken shingles? Flashing pulled loose? Sometimes a house settles a little. This may show around the chimney. Chinks must be filled up with mortar or roofing cement and flashing nailed tightly in place. On the outside walls, a few nails will tighten loose siding and prevent serious damage. Gutters and downspouts will last longer if they are cleaned and painted.

Next, the foundations of the house. Bricks may be loosened or timbers rotted. Repairs to the foundation are important and cannot be allowed to wait. Window frames can be made firm, solid, and rain-proof.

Outside steps are often weather-rotted but are easily repaired.

Outside painting is one of the maintenance jobs that give considerable weather protection as well as improvement in appearance. Wood trim on door frames, window frames, porch floors and roofs require regular painting. Interior improvements can go over until these essential repairs are taken care of.

